UNC Charlotte’s School of Data Science is an interdisciplinary partnership committed to growing exemplary talent through research and education.

WE ARE THE SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE
The College of Health and Human Services | The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
The College of Computing and Informatics | The Belk College of Business

MISSION

UNC Charlotte’s School of Data Science is an interdisciplinary partnership committed to growing exemplary talent through research and education.
FUELING THE FUTURE OF DATA SCIENCE

Uniquely centered in the hub of big data, UNC Charlotte has created the Carolinas’ first School of Data Science (SDS), tapping the region’s expansive ecosystem of research, industry, and community engagement to apply a visionary lens to the education and application of data science.

SDS brings academia and industry together to offer a suite of interdisciplinary programs and courses to individuals of all backgrounds, transforming data into knowledge, and knowledge into insights. Our expert faculty has partnered with Charlotte’s business community to develop curriculums designed to provide a deep understanding of the skills and tools needed to analyze data, explore data-driven decision making, and evaluate social problems and the ethical implications of data science.

The innovative data science programs at UNC Charlotte create in-demand graduates and generations of leaders, equipped with the knowledge and expertise to make a difference in industries not yet touched by data science.
"The School of Data Science is using its expansive resources and visionary leadership to push the boundaries of what’s known about data science. I’m excited to see how SDS fulfills the surging demand of data science professionals all across the United States."

—ANJALI KHUSHALANI
HiAT'18 DSBA '19

Data Science and Business Analytics
Graduate Students

375

Health Informatics and Analytics
Graduate Students

175

Data Science and Business Analytics
Graduate Students

375

1st Generation
Undergraduate College students at UNC Charlotte

37%
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS
UNC Charlotte’s School of Data Science offers the only bachelor’s degree in data science in North Carolina. The undergraduate program is designed to equip students of all backgrounds and with any level of programming and statistics experience to become innovators in the field of data science.

Students who complete the major in data science will have the ability to apply theories and technologies to problems in domains across the humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Students will take courses in machine learning, data analysis, statistics, data visualization, and most importantly the ethics surrounding the field of data science.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Data Science & Business Analytics
Data Science and Business Analytics (DSBA) offers both a 15-credit hour Graduate Certificate and a 33-credit hour Master’s Degree. Each program is an interdisciplinary drawing of domain expertise in business, computer and information sciences, statistics, and operations research. DSBA graduates are equipped for employment in a wide variety of data-intensive industries, such as financial services, energy, retail/supply chain, etc., fields where the demand for business analysts with quantitative, computational, and sophisticated analytical skills is growing at an explosive pace.

Health Informatics & Analytics
The Health Informatics and Analytics (HIA) program offers a 15-credit hour Graduate Certificate and a 36-credit hour Master’s Degree. The program was created in response to the national need for trained professionals in health analytics and data science. Health Informaticians bridge the gap between the worlds of medicine and information technology, looking for patterns in data that reveal best practices to improve healthcare. This is an interdisciplinary program drawing on expertise from business, computer and information sciences, and statistics, within the unique domain of healthcare. HIA graduates are equipped for employment in a wide variety of data-intensive areas within the healthcare space: Clinical Informatics, Population Health, and Financial Services.

Both graduate programs offer dual degree options and Early-Entry program opportunities for UNC Charlotte undergraduates.

For more information about our undergraduate and graduate programs, please contact Carly Mahedy at datascience@uncc.edu.
THE RISE AND DEMAND OF CAREERS IN DATA SCIENCE

TOP 3: GROWING SKILLS IN 2020
01 ANALYTICAL THINKING & INNOVATION
02 ACTIVE LEARNING & LEARNING STRATEGIES
03 CREATIVITY, ORIGINALITY & INITIATIVE

TOP 3: EMERGING JOBS IN 2020
01 DATA ANALYSTS & SCIENTISTS
02 AI & MACHINE LEARNING SPECIALISTS
03 GENERAL & OPERATIONS MANAGER

91% OF DATA SCIENTISTS hold graduate degrees
$92,500 MEDIAN BASE salary for entry level data scientists
3-5 YEARS AVERAGE MINIMUM of professional experience prior to matriculating

SDS GRADUATE STUDENT SNAPSHOT

55% OF STUDENTS are working part-time with companies across Charlotte
OVER 250 active graduate students

THE RISE AND DEMAND OF CAREERS IN DATA SCIENCE
BUILDING A WORKFORCE OF DATA SCIENTISTS

At its core, the mission of the School of Data Science is to develop and generate talent to meet market demand for professionals with domain expertise, a passion for data, deep analytical talents and strong communication skills.

CREATING TALENT

Our interdisciplinary programs are designed to develop new generations of data scientists, business analysts, and data engineers, equipped with the technical and business skills to transform data into knowledge, knowledge into insights, and insights into action.

SDS students come to UNC Charlotte from very diverse backgrounds, and many of our students enter our graduate degree programs with work experience in the health, retail, financial, supply chain and energy sectors.

Our faculty and administration work with area organizations, including Fortune 500 companies, to seek their input on market needs for skills, and provide them with graduates who can drive innovation across a variety of social, economic and business solutions.

The curriculum of graduate programs in Health Informatics and Analytics, Data Science and Business Analytics, and the new undergraduate degree program in Data Science stress applied research and problem solving, often with industry experts and practitioners leading the classes.

Throughout their studies, students work in multidisciplinary teams that foster communication and leadership skills while also honing their technical and analytical expertise. Each undergraduate and graduate program offered at UNC Charlotte is designed to create skilled, seasoned data scientists with translational skills, experienced with both data and analysis in multiple domains.

SPONSOR AN INTERNSHIP, RECRUIT FOR THE FUTURE

Internships offer employers the opportunity to evaluate potential job candidates in the real-world work environment. Through special projects UNC Charlotte’s data scientists can be embedded and trained from the start of their careers, and give employers the ability to evaluate potential job candidates ahead of offering permanent employment.

This internship/practicum environment allows our students to apply the theories, ideas, principles and skills learned in the classroom to problem-solving in practice. Here students are immersed in organizational culture and mentored by subject matter experts in the field, with a chance to demonstrate their abilities as data science professionals and contributing team members.

For more information about our talent recruitment and internship program, please contact Josh Hertel at datascience@uncc.edu.
“From a career growth perspective, I expect an increase in data science positions across industries in the years ahead. Individuals with a unique combination of expertise in data, statistics, computer science and, if possible, social sciences such as behavioral economics, will help organizations better serve customers of tomorrow.”

—NED CARROLL
Senior Managing Director, Chief Data Officer at TIAA

COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

Through The School of Data Science, UNC Charlotte and our corporate partners have fully actualized the critical role of data and digital science as a determining factor of competitive success.

We are proud to be one of the first organizations to develop a comprehensive program that provides a talent pipeline and serves as an expert resource for professional education and external research. UNC Charlotte offers both the researcher expertise and the infrastructure for digital science innovation.

CONFERENCES

The School of Data Science is host to two annual industry conferences:

The Analytics Frontiers Conference has been hosted by UNC Charlotte for several years. It has grown into the largest data science conference in the region, attracting more than 500 thought leaders, scientists, and business executives from different industries and academia.

The Charlotte Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference aims to inspire, educate, and engage current and future data scientists in the Carolinas, regardless of gender, and to support women in the field by providing training, networking, and mentoring opportunities.
RESEARCH AT UNC CHARLOTTE

The School of Data Science combines emerging technologies with state-of-the-art facilities to empower students and faculty to deliver integrated academic research and business innovation. UNC Charlotte hosts the Center For Visual and Decision Informatics, a collaboration with industry on research, resulting in the direct transfer of university developed ideas and technology into the marketplace.

The Center for Visual and Decision Informatics

One of the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) longest running programs is the Industry University Cooperative Research Center or IUCRC. This collaboration of industry, academe, and government focuses on industry-relevant, pre-competitive research to perform cutting-edge pre-competitive fundamental research in science, engineering, technology area(s). Members are recruited and guide the direction of a center’s research through financial support, active involvement and mentoring. By focusing on projects that are of interest to industry, it is the purpose of the IUCRC program to drive innovation and build the U.S. economy.

UNC Charlotte has joined phase two of an NSF IUCRC, specifically, the Center for Visual and Decision Informatics (CVDI). The CVDI’s mission is to research and develop next-generation technologies in data science, big data analytics, including visual analytics, augmented intelligence, and decision informatics to enable decision makers in government and industry to fundamentally improve the way their organization’s information is interpreted and analyzed. CVDI brings together, analytic, visual and perceptual techniques by advancing the state-of-the-art in the research fields of information visualization, visual analytics, and automated analysis.

For more information about research partnerships and industry engagement, please contact Rick Hudson at datascience@uncc.edu.
ABOUT UNC CHARLOTTE

UNC Charlotte is North Carolina's urban research university. It is the third-largest campus among 17 institutions of The University of North Carolina system, and the largest institution of higher education in the Charlotte region. Annual enrollment exceeds 29,000 students, including more than 5,000 graduate students.

UNC Charlotte
School of Data Science
9201 University City Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28223

Carly Mahedy, Director of Student Services
Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Programs

Rick Hudson, Senior Project Manager
Research Partnerships and Industry Engagement

Joshua Hertel, Director
Talent Recruitment and Internship Placement

datascience@uncc.edu